

ALLOWANCE WITH RESPECT TO EXPENSES OF OBTAIN-
ING NOTARY COMMISSIONS

JUNE 21, 1956.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State
of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. KILGORE, from the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

To accompany S. 1542]

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1542) to authorize an allowance for civilian officers and employees of the Government who are notaries public, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

STATEMENT

This legislation will provide for the payment of an allowance to any person who is required to serve as a notary public in connection with the performance of official duties for the Federal Government or the municipal government of the District of Columbia. This allowance will not exceed the actual expenses incurred by the employee in obtaining a notarial commission. It will be granted only in the case of a commission obtained for the purpose of facilitating the operations of the Government. Such commissions are obtained for the convenience of the Government rather than that of the employees concerned. Under such circumstances, the employee who is required to expend his own funds to fulfill the requirements of becoming a notary public should be compensated for the cost involved.

The favorable reports of the Bureau of the Budget, the Department of the Treasury, the United States Civil Service Commission, and the government of the District of Columbia follow:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D. C., April 4, 1956.

Hon. TOM MURRAY,
*Chairman, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request of March 23, 1956, for the views of this Bureau concerning S. 1542, a bill to authorize an allowance for civilian officers and employees of the Government who are notaries public.

The bill would authorize departments and establishments of the Federal Government and the metropolitan government of the District of Columbia to pay, from personal service or general administrative expense funds, an allowance to each civilian officer and employee who is required in the performance of his official business to serve as a notary public. Such allowance is not to exceed the expense required to obtain a commission as notary public from and after January 1, 1955.

The Bureau of the Budget believes that when an officer or employee is required to serve as a notary public in the performance of his official duties, the necessary expense of obtaining the commission as a notary public should be borne by the Government, and, accordingly, endorses the objective of the bill.

Sincerely yours,

PERCY RAPPAPORT,
Assistant Director.

APRIL 6, 1956.

Hon. TOM MURRAY,
*Chairman, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your letter of March 23, 1956, requesting a statement of this Department's views on S. 1542, a bill to authorize an allowance for civilian officers and employees of the Government who are notaries public.

The proposed legislation would provide that civilian officers and employees of the Federal Government and the municipal government of the District of Columbia who are required to serve as notaries public in connection with the performance of official business shall be paid an allowance not to exceed the cost of their commission.

This Department would have no objection to the enactment of the proposed legislation.

The Department has been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection to the submission of this report to your committee.

Very truly yours,

W. RANDOLPH BURGESS,
Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION,
Washington, D. C., April 3, 1956.

Hon. TOM MURRAY,
*Chairman, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MR. MURRAY: This is in reply to your letter of March 23, 1956, which requested the Commission's views on S. 1542, a bill to authorize an allowance for civilian officers and employees of the Government who are notaries public.

S. 1542 would require the payment of an allowance to persons required to serve as notaries public in connection with the performance of official business. This allowance would not exceed the actual expenses incurred by the employee in obtaining his commission. The Commission agrees with the purposes of S. 1542. The notarial commissions are obtained for the purpose of facilitating the operations of the Government and are for its convenience rather than that of the employee. Under such circumstances, Federal employees who are required to expend their own money to fulfill the requirements of becoming a notary public should be compensated for the cost involved.

Therefore, the Commission favors the enactment of S. 1542.

We are advised that the Bureau of the Budget has no objection to the submission of this report.

By direction of the Commission:

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP YOUNG, *Chairman.*

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, D. C., April 5, 1956.

Hon. TOM MURRAY,
*Chairman, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MR. MURRAY: Further reply is made to your letter of March 23, 1956, requesting that you be furnished a report, in triplicate, on S. 1542.

I am enclosing three copies of the report of the Commissioners, addressed to the Honorable Olin D. Johnston, on November 15, 1955.

Sincerely yours,

G. M. THORNETT,
Secretary, Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia.

NOVEMBER 15, 1955.

Hon. OLIN D. JOHNSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Post Office and Civil Service,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR SENATOR JOHNSON: The Commissioners have for report S. 1542, 84th Congress, a bill to authorize an allowance for civilian officers and employees of the Government who are notaries public.

At the present time, the government of the District of Columbia numbers among its employees approximately 115 persons who hold commissions as notaries public. Of these, 97 perform their notarial duties solely in connection with the performance of official business of the government of the District of Columbia. These 97, like Federal

Government employees whose notarial duties are confined to official business, are excused from the payment of the \$10 license fee for their commission, but they nevertheless are required to give bond, the premium for which is \$6, and to purchase their own notarial seal at a cost of approximately \$6.

The Commissioners recommend that S. 1542, which presently relates only to the officers and employees of the Federal Government, be amended in such manner as to be applicable to the officers and employees of the municipal government of the District of Columbia.

Accordingly, the Commissioners recommend that the bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, lines 4 and 11, strike "Government" and insert in lieu thereof "Federal Government and the municipal government of the District of Columbia".

In line 11, page 1, strike "Government" and insert in lieu thereof "Federal Government and the municipal government of the District of Columbia".

The Commissioners have been advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection on the part of that office to submission of this report to the Congress.

Yours very sincerely,

President, Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia.

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